

There's More to PubMed®/MEDLINE®: The Free My NCBI Tool



National Library of Medicine
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/>

NLM Resources

Advanced PubMed Searching Resource Packet: <http://nnlm.gov/training/resources/pubmedpacket.pdf>

Find Articles You Need: <http://nnlm.gov/training/resources/pubmed8.pdf>

MedlinePlus® for Health Professionals: <http://nnlm.gov/training/resources/mp4hptri.pdf>

NLM PubMed Online Training: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/disted/pubmed.html>

NN/LM Non-English Guides to PubMed: <http://nnlm.gov/training/resources/intlpubmedlinks.html>

There's More to PubMed/MEDLINE: <http://nnlm.gov/training/resources/myncbi8.pdf>

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National Library of Medicine <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/>

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) is the world's largest medical library and focuses on medicine and related sciences. NLM is part of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health (NIH). NLM collections include more than seven million books, journals, technical reports, manuscripts, microfilms, photographs, and images. Online databases address genetics, consumer health, environmental health and toxicology, and literature citations.



PubMed®

The PubMed literature citation database was developed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) at NLM and is one of many NCBI databases. Since 1996, free access to MEDLINE has been available via PubMed. PubMed provides links to the full-text of articles at participating publishers' Web sites and from the national full-text archive, PMC. PubMed contains over 23 million bibliographic citations back to 1809; the indexing of citations began in 1946 with Index Medicus. PubMed is updated Tuesday through Saturday. PubMed also includes links to biological and sequence data in the NCBI molecular biology databases and to chemical information in the PubChem databases.



My NCBI

My NCBI is a tool that retains user information and database preferences to provide customized services for many NCBI databases, including PubMed. To use My NCBI, the Web browser must accept cookies and allow pop-ups from NCBI Web pages. PubMed My NCBI options include:

- Save search strategies; Set up automatic searches that are sent by e-mail weekly or monthly
- Permanently save **Collections** of citations; Publish a link to make the information public
- Create a personal bibliography online by saving citations (journal articles, books, meetings, patents and presentations) in **My Bibliography**; This information may also be made public
- Set personal preferences including display formats, highlighting search terms, and Document Delivery preferences
- Create **Filters**, including those from a library; Filters (except Custom) may be added to a search
- Manage peer review article compliance with the NIH Public Access Policy; Link the My NCBI account to eRA Commons, ORCID, Google, etc.
- While signed into My NCBI, searches and individually viewed items are stored for six months; From **Recent Activity**, past search strategies may be saved, and viewed citations may be added to a collection

MEDLINE®

MEDLINE is the indexed subset of PubMed and contains nearly 21 million bibliographic citations on topics including microbiology, delivery of health care, nutrition, pharmacology and environmental health in the areas of anatomy, organisms, diseases, psychiatry, and psychology. MEDLINE makes up 90% of PubMed. Over 5,600 biomedical journals are currently indexed by NLM for MEDLINE. These journals are selected by the Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC). Considerations for inclusion are the scope and coverage of the journal, the quality of content and editorial work, production quality, the audience addressed, and the type of content.



My NCBI

Use My NCBI to save citations, to save search strategies and to set personal preferences and filters

- Sign into My NCBI by clicking on the link in the upper right hand corner of PubMed [Sign in to NCBI](#)
- Create a new account with **Register for an NCBI account**
- Additional options include **Keep me signed in** until signed out and to use one of the **3rd party sign in options**



Click on the My NCBI icon to return to the My NCBI homepage at any time.

Save Searches, Create Alerts

Example: Find articles of clinical trials of radiosurgery on female lung cancer patients. Save the search and send monthly emails updates of the latest citations on this search.

- Create the search
 - Enter **radiosurgery** and **lung cancer** in any order in the search box; click **Search**
 - In the left navigation filters; under **Article types**, click **Clinical Trial**
 - Click **Show Additional filters**, check **Sex**, then click **Show**; now click **Female** to activate the filter
- Run the search by clicking **Search**
 - Check **Search Details** to verify the search ran as expected.

- Click **Save Search**

- In My NCBI
 - Change the name of the search to something easy to remember, click **Save**
 - Additional options include:
 - Rename the search
 - Adjust search terms
 - Update your email address
 - Have PubMed run the search on a regular basis and send emails of citations added to PubMed since the previous search
 - Send updates daily, weekly, or monthly
 - Select the day to receive updates; Note: PubMed updates Tuesday through Saturday
 - Select format: Summary, Abstract, Text only, or MEDLINE (for citation manager programs)
 - Number of items per email, from 1 to 200
 - Run search only when new citations are available (default); Use check box to change this option
 - Add additional text to appear in the email

Manage Saved Searches



Saved Searches window

- Click on the name of the search to run the search and add it to History
- Use the **Tool Icon** to edit or delete a search
- Click on the number to see citations added to PubMed since the last search
- Click on **Manage Saved Searches** at the bottom of the window to see the alert schedules for all searches

Add Personal Filters to PubMed

A filter groups search results by areas of interest; My NCBI personalized filters appear in the right navigation bar. To access filters, click

Manage Filters either from the search **Results** page or in My NCBI

- A maximum of **fifteen** active filters may be set using My NCBI
- Click on a filter link to see the citations from that filtered search; the selected filter will be highlighted in yellow
- Add the filter to a PubMed search by first clicking on the filter link, then using the **Plus** sign; Note: Custom filters do not have plus signs
- An infinite number of provider icons may be selected; these appear in the Abstract display format

Filter your results:

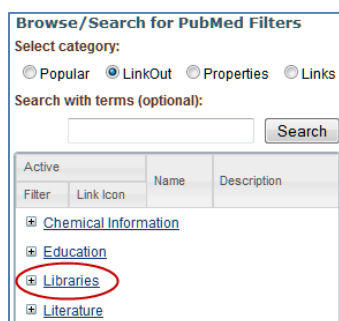
[All \(2070\)](#)

[English & Humans \(1968\)](#)

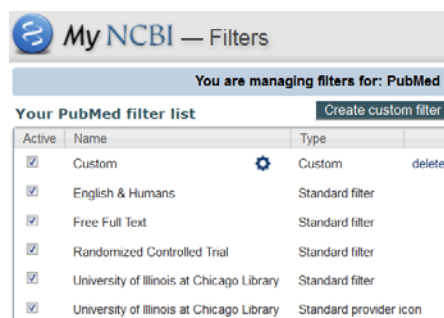
[University of Illinois at Chicago Library \(931\)](#)

[Custom \(1\)](#)

[Manage Filters](#)



- **Popular** identifies nine common filter options
- **LinkOut** provides filters from outside sources
- **Properties** includes filters related to Limits
- **Links** accesses citations with links to other NCBI databases



- The **Your PubMed filter list** includes all currently active filters and icons
- **Custom:** Click the Tool Icon to create a filter based on the search of your choice

Example: Add a filter for a specific library

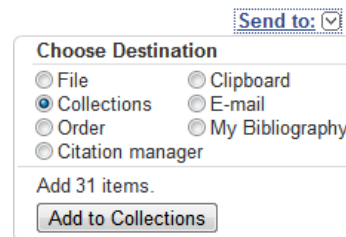
- Verify there are less than fifteen active filters in **Your PubMed filter list**
 - If there are more than fifteen, deselect one or more filters by unchecking the box(es) under Filter
- Under **Browse/Search for PubMed Filters**, click **LinkOut** then search for all or part of the library name
 - Alternatively, click **Libraries** and then on the first letter of the organization's name
- Click the check box under Filter and, optionally, under Link icon. The filter will appear in your PubMed filter list and on the Results page after every search

Active	Filter	Link icon	Name	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Add a result filter for items in the Libraries category.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		University of Ibadan-E. Latunde Odeku Medical Library, Nigeria (website)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		University of Illinois at Chicago Library (website)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		University of Kansas Libraries (website)	

Save Collections of Citations

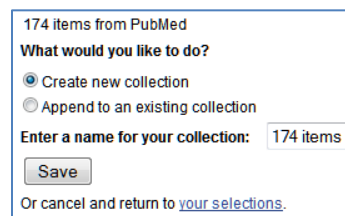
Collections are citations that are permanently saved in My NCBI by using the **Collections** option in the **Send to** menu.

- Citations may be added to a new or existing collection
- Collections may be shared by using the **Public** option
- **My Bibliography** and **Other Citations** are specialized collections of citations by a one author



Example: Create a collection of recent clinical trials on the risk of stroke after coronary angiography in adults.

- Search PubMed
 - Enter *stroke* and *coronary angiography* in the PubMed search box; click **Search**
 - Apply the filters for **Clinical Trial** (under *Article types*), **5 years** (under *Publication dates*) and for **Adult: 19+ years** (under *Ages* – access *Show additional filters* if necessary)
 - You should have about 175 citations; Select one or more citations by clicking on the check box
- Create a new collection
 - Click the **Send to** link
 - Click **Collections**, then the **Add to Collections** button
 - Click **Create new collection** and give the collection a name
 - Click **Save**



Manage Collections



Collections window

- Click on the name of the collection to view the items in PubMed
- Click **edit** to add or delete citations
- Use the **Tool Icon** or click on **Public/Private** to change the settings of a collection
- Click on **Manage Collections** at the bottom of the window to merge or delete collections

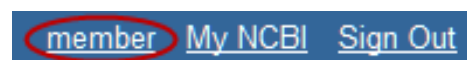
Set NCBI Preferences



Reminder: Click on the My NCBI icon to return to the My NCBI homepage.

Personal preferences:

- Use the first link (username) to add or change an email address, update a password, change the Security Question, and view Linked accounts
- Use the Customize this page link to add or delete My NCBI windows



NCBI Site Preferences

Customize this page | **NCBI Site Preferences** | Video Overview | Help

Common Preferences

- **Links Display:** For computers with pop-up limitations
- **Highlighting:** Of searched terms
- **Auto Suggest:** Turn on or off when signed into My NCBI
- **Shared Settings:** Often used by institutions to allow others to easily access their resources

PubMed Preferences

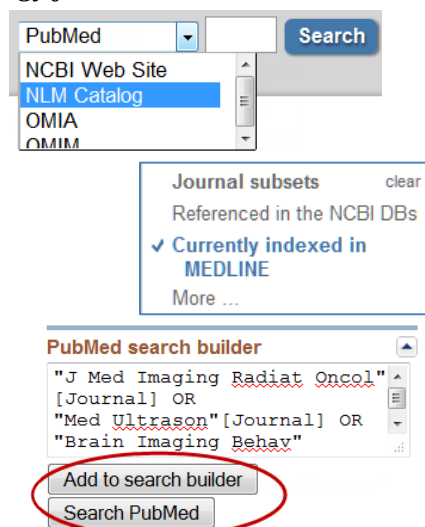
- **Abstract Supplemental Data:** Set to *Open* to view MeSH headings in the Abstract Results
- **Document Delivery:** Service used by **Send to Order**
- **Filters & Icons:** Complete list of links and provider icons that have been set
- **Outside Tool:** Used by institutions for document delivery
- **Result Display Setting:** Apply specific Format, Items per page, and Sort by settings while signed into My NCBI

Limit PubMed Searches to Specific Journals

Journals used in PubMed are listed in the NLM Catalog. The NLM Catalog can be used to create a collection of journals on a specific topic. The collection can then be sent to PubMed and used to limit PubMed searches to only those journals. An alert can also be created to send email updates when new citations are added to PubMed from those journals.

Example: Create an alert (email update) of new citations from radiology journals.

- Go to the **NLM Catalog**
 - Select **NLM Catalog** from the drop-down menu and click the **Search** button
 - Search by journal title or use the **Broad Subject Terms** link to selected terms on the NLM Catalog homepage
 - Click the filter **Currently indexed in MEDLINE** (recommended when journals will be used for email updates)
 - Select individual journals by clicking on the check box
 - Click **Add to search builder**
 - Then click **Search PubMed** to send the journals to PubMed



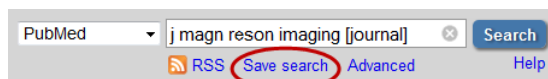
Repeat the process as often as necessary to collect all desired journals. Don't worry about duplicating journals.

One potential NLM Catalog search strategy is:

Diagnostic Imaging[st] OR Nuclear Medicine[st] OR Radiology[st] OR Radiotherapy[st]

History		
Search	Add to builder	
#29	Add	Search ("In Ther"[Jou
#27	Add	Search "Int Radiol"[Jo
#25	Add	Search ("Di Nucl Imag

- Return to **PubMed**
 - Click the **Advanced** link, under **History**, combine all the journals searches into one large search
 - **Save search** in My NCBI



Use the Saved search options to set up an alert or to limit future searches to only specific journals.